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THE
MONTHLY



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BULLETIN

Volume 45, Berkeley, California May, 1963 Number 5

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH BENEFIT

Hillside Gardeners of Montclair are having a spring Garden Fair as a benefit for Audubon Canyon Ranch on Monday, May 6th, 10 A.M. to 4 P. M., in the Montclair Women's Clubhouse, Mountain Boulevard at Thornhill Drive, Oakland. Luncheon will be served from 11:30 to 1:30, price \$1.50. There is no admission charge but there will be many booths with articles for sale.

Contact your friends and attend this gala event. — Remember proceeds go to Audubon Canyon Ranch.

RECENT FIELD TRIPS

The fog was intermittent, the day reasonably warm, the trail along the east shore of Strawberry Point very muddy and puddly after extensive rains. A sizeable crowd of about 50 members blossomed forth to visit the National Audubon Richardson Bay Wildlife Refuge. The morning was spent on the lagoon shores near Richardson Bay Bridge, where green-winged teal and one white pelican were noteworthy; from there over the hill to Strawberry Point, where the walk out to the farthest limits rewarded us with seven Black Turnstones, several Spotted Sandpipers and a large herd of harbor seals sunning on the dredged-up mud banks out from the shore. Fortunately, although the mud-bank now has an automobile road on it, the large number of Great Blue Herons living there have not left yet. On the way over the hill by car caravan, a few of us were lucky enough to get a wonderful view of a Red-shouldered Hawk, which has never been recorded on this trip before. Lunch was enjoyed on the beautiful terrace of the Dickey House, with our hosts, Mr. and Mrs. John C. Larson, Jr. Mr. Larson, the Audubon warden, gave an interesting talk on the history of the establishment of this sanctuary. He, also, told us that this year the migratory waterfowl were quite late in arriving and their numbers were down from the previous years.

After lunch some of the group went on to Belvedere Island to try for closer views of the dense rafts of ducks, cormorants, scoters, and grebes. Common loons were diving in very close. Amongst our guests we had a very distinguished gentleman, Sir Geoffrey Furlongs, who for thirty years had been in the foreign service of Great Britain, in the near East and Africa, notably as ambassador — his last post being in Egypt. He is also a renowned birder with experience in these countries and on the continent of Europe. Now retired, he was on a lecture tour and in San Francisco to address the World Affairs Council.

A total of 64 species of birds were seen.

—Elizabeth Lennon, *Leader & Historian*

On March 31, some forty members and friends of the Golden Gate Audubon Society travelled to the Farallon Islands and back aboard *Privateer II* to see pelagic birds and mammals. In the absence of migrating phalaropes or Sabine's Gulls, and with only a couple of sightings of individual Sooty Shearwaters, the trip out was comparatively uneventful. At the island itself, thousands of Western Gulls, Common Murres, and cormorants, and hundreds of Pigeon Guillemots circled about the nesting areas. A few Tufted Puffins flew in and out of the rock stacks. Off the island, a few Rhinoceros Auklets, a number of Surf Scoters, and several tightly bunched groups of Eared and Horned Grebes were observed. Most of the grebes were well into breeding plumage. On the return trip, when *Privateer* circled southward nearer the sea lanes, seven Black-footed Albatross came to join the gulls feeding behind the boat.

—Robert O. Paxton, *Historian*

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our society: from Berkeley, Mr. & Mrs. T. M. Atkinson, Mr. & Mrs. Charles V. Fowler, Mr. John H. Graves, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Rabkin, Mr. & Mrs. Frederic L. Schuder, Miss Gladys M. Stilson; from Brentwood, Mr. Franklin Phillips, Jr.; from El Cerrito, Mrs. Jean Nelson; from Hayward, Mr. Tom Carson; from Novato, Mrs. V. E. Perlman; from Oakland, Miss Marian Combs, Mr. Charles T. Evans, Mrs. Harry H. Ross, Mr. William J. Monheit; from San Francisco, Mr. William H. Nakano, Dr. Margaret E. Robins, Mr. & Mrs. J. S. Strauss, Miss Irene L. Zelinski. —VALERIA DaCOSTA, *Membership Chairman*

BILLS FOR HIKING AND RIDING TRAILS

Assembly Bill 1877 and Senate Bill 1004 were recently introduced to speed development of the lagging statewide riding and hiking trails program. The bills would make the riding and hiking trails a part of the state park system and give the State Department of Parks and Recreation the right of eminent domain, permitting condemnation proceedings on land needed to complete the trail system. If you support this program write to your assemblyman and state senator and urge them to pass these bills.

IN MEMORIAM

*Gifts of remembrance to the Canyon Ranch Fund**In memory of*

Marie O'Neill
 Alfred W. McLean
 Marie Halliday
 Henry Lidley
 Mrs. Beitzel
 Rae Lamoreux
 Arthur O. Eppler
 Val Salmon

Gift of

The California Alpine Club

 Concord Women's Garden Club
 Country Club of Washington Township
 California Alpine Club

—DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman*

GIFT TO CANYON RANCH FUND

Honoring

Laurel Reynolds

Gift of

San Francisco Garden Club

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH RESERVATIONS

It is necessary for groups wishing to visit Canyon Ranch to make reservations with Mrs. Thomas Price, P. O. Box 197, Belvedere, Phone GE 5-1121. Reservations will not be made for Mondays and Tuesdays. Mrs. Price should be given the date of the visit, the approximate time of arrival, the number in the group and if the group wishes to picnic. There is a 54-cup coffeemaker and coffee that can be used. Visitors must bring their own cups and are most welcome.

MAY MEETING

The 539th regular meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held on Thursday, May 9th, at 7:30 P.M., in the First Unitarian Church, Geary and Franklin Streets, in San Francisco.

Again we are fortunate to have as our lecturer, Mr. John Thomas Howell, Curator of Botany at the California Academy of Sciences, who will speak on *The Heather Family in California*. His lecture will be illustrated with beautiful Kodachrome slides, photographed by Mr. Charles Webber.

Dinner will be served at 6:00 at the church for those who make reservations. The cost is \$1.00. Please call Valeria DaCosta in San Francisco, WE 1-5257; Myra Browne in the East Bay, LO 8-1921. Do come and bring a friend.

—MYRA BROWNE, *Program Chairman*

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be a dinner at the Lakeside Park and Garden Center, on June 13th. Please save this date and watch for details in the June Gull.

The nominating committee has selected the following slate of officers for the succeeding year:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| President | Miss Erline Hevel |
| Vice-president | Mr. Horace H. Jeter |
| Vice-president | Miss Bertha Underhill |
| Treasurer | Mrs. George H. Radcliffe |
| Recording Secretary | Mrs. Shirley G. Walton |
| Corresponding Secretary | Miss Patricia A. Tiggard |
| Director | Miss Aileen Pierson |

—ROBERTA LONG, *Nominating Committee Chairman*

FIELD TRIPS FOR MAY

Saturday, May 4, to the slopes of Mount Diablo, primarily to look at flowers. See April Gull for details. Meet at Danville at 9 a. m. at the starting point of the South Road to the mountain. Leader, Marshall Jencks, Kellogg 4-9353.

Sunday, May 5, to Jack London Ranch, Glen Ellen, Sonoma Co. See announcement in the April Gull. Meet at 9 a. m. at Glen Ellen post office. This is about one mile from Highway 12, seven miles from Sonoma and 15 miles from Santa Rosa. Leaders, Marianne and Susan Shepard, Box 141, Glen Ellen.

Saturday, May 11, to Patterson Pass area. Black-chinned and Sage Sparrows, Lawrence Goldfinch, Lazuli Bunting, Costa's Hummingbirds and other species not so common to the lower areas may be seen. Early morning is best for birding so meet at Livermore at 6:30 a. m. one block beyond the flagpole on Livermore Avenue. Bring lunch, binoculars, telescopes and interested friends. Leader, Paul De Benedictis THornwall 8-5240.

Tuesday, May 14, to Tomales Bay and Tomales State Park. The variety of habitat found here makes this a rich area for bird study. Land, water and shore birds may be seen in spring plumage. Bring binoculars telescopes, interested friends and lunch. Meet at 10 a. m. in Inverness. Persons without transportation would appreciate a ride. If you have extra space in your car drop by Lombard & Lyon Streets in San Francisco at 8:30 a. m. (No. 45 bus) and at the Ski Hut, 1615 University Ave., Berkeley at 8:30 a. m. for riders. Leader, Alice Williams, Phone 669-1218.

Sunday, May 19, "Birding by Ear" Mt. Diablo. Meet at south entrance Mt. Diablo State Park 6:30 a. m. To reach park drive to Danville and turn

east. Those wishing to hear the dawn chorus meet the previous evening, May 18, and camp at Wild Cat camp site in the park. Park gates close at 7 p. m. Leader, Arthur Wang, LANDscape 4-7399.

Tuesday, May 21, a combined bird and flower trip to Napa Valley. A St. Helena resident, Mrs. Merrel Ackley, who is thoroughly familiar with the region and its flora, will be co-leader. Meet at 9:30 a. m. at Vern's Drive-In, one block beyond the high school on the left just before entering St. Helena. Bring lunch, binoculars, manuals and interested friends. Co-leader, Marshall Jencks, KEllog 4-9353.

On Saturday & Sunday, May 25-26, Yosemite National Park. This is the place to see many unusual birds. In previous years, at this time Great Gray and Pygmy Owl, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker and Williamson's Sapsucker were seen. Interesting mammals and beautiful flowers were observed. The waterfalls are most spectacular at this time. Campers will get together at Camp 11. Trips will start from the main post office, at 9 a. m. and 1 p. m. on Saturday and 9 a. m. on Sunday. The Saturday afternoon trip will be to the meadows on the Glacier Point Road to look for the Great Gray Owl. Leader, Richard Stallcup, LOKkhaven 9-3185.

We have reserved and put up a deposit for 18 rooms (2ea) for the night of May 25. If you desire any of these accommodations please contact field trips chairman, Harold G. Peterson before May 15.

Thursday through Sunday, May 30, 31, June 1 and 2 — SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR CONDORS. Memorial Day weekend is ideal for a visit to the Condor area of the Los Padres National Forest. Meet at the Ventura County Fire Department station in Fillmore, 9 a. m. May 31. From here travel will be by auto caravan to Squaw Flat in the Sespe Wildlife Area. A fair camp is located at Cow Spring close to Squaw Flat. Motels and restaurants are available at Santa Paula, about 10 miles from Fillmore. For best birding plan to camp out one night at least. Fillmore is situated on State Route 126. It is 22 miles west of U. S. Highway 99 starting at Castaic Junction and about the same distance from U. S. 101 starting at Ventura. Advise field trips chairman if you are going so that U. S. Forest Service can be advised of how many will be in our party. Leader, Harold G. Peterson, 568-7534.

—HAROLD G. PETERSON, *Field Trips Chairman*

HELP WANTED

Our society is alternating on a monthly basis with Marin in staffing Canyon Ranch. We need people to act as hosts and hostesses at the ranch in June. If you would like this pleasant duty in an inviting setting, for a day or two write or phone *Beth Snyder*, 517 Dwight Place, Berkeley, TH 1-1747 or *Bertha Underhill*, 35 Tamalpais Road, Berkeley, TH 8-0131.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917

A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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| President | Miss Aileen Pierson..... | 810 Gonzalez Dr., San Francisco 27 | JU 7-4163 |
| Vice President | Mrs. Beth C. Snyder..... | 517 Dwight Place, Berkeley 4 | TH 1-1747 |
| Vice President | Miss Jacqueline Watkins..... | 638 San Luis Road, Berkeley | LA 4-5677 |
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| Conservation Chairman | Paul F. Covel..... | 2860 Delaware St., Oakland 2 | KE 6-4120 |

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Assistant Editor. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Chairman.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National, \$6.50 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$1.50 per year.

Visit the Conservation Center of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 4, California TH 8-4042

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